

# The Do's & Don'ts of Auditioning

## First Principles:

- DO** lots of auditions! Auditioning is a skill to be learned, so the more you do it, the better at it you will become.
- DON'T** take rejection personally. You may not have been cast for quite arbitrary reasons that have nothing to do with your talent. Regard all feedback as a gift to grow on and try again next time.

## Preparation:

- DO** your research. Read the whole play if possible.
- DO** choose the character you'd like to read for (and that you think you could be cast as) and become familiar with the audition sides, fleshing out the 5 W's of your character: Who am I? Where am I? (environment, setting, place) When? (time of day, year, historical period) What is the conflict for my character? (What do I want, what's getting in the way of what I want, what is my character willing to do to get it?) Why does my character want what he/she wants?
- DO** practice the scene with your choices in mind. Make bold, fully committed choices.

## Audition Time:

- DO** Arrive early to the auditions.
- DO** Establish a good rapport with your scene partner.
- DO** Be ready to jump up as soon as your name is called.
- DO** Go up on stage with confidence, state your name and the role you're reading for loudly and clearly.
- DO** Make sure you and your partner are composed and ready before you begin.
- DON'T** rush! This is your time.
- DO** get your head and eyes up out of the script so the director can see your face.
- DO** focus on your partner and what you want from him/her.
- DO** keep going and disregard any stumbles. Accommodate the unexpected!
- DON'T** start over again.
- DO** take in any adjustments the director asks you to make.
- DO** remain flexible if the director asks you to read for a different role.
- DO** finish your audition with NO APOLOGIES. A simple "Thank you" is great.

## When you're not auditioning:

- DO** listen to others to learn something that might help you in your audition.
- DON'T** talk!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Be respectful of everyone and everything.

## Afterwards:

- DO** retain your sense of humor! Forgive yourself immediately for any mistakes and enjoy the prospect of the next audition.

*Thank you all! Have fun!*